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THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

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"For the eternal purposes of the Lord shall roll on, until all his promises shall be fulfilled." BOOK OF MORMON, MORMON 8: 22.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—OBSERVE LAW*

PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

IT IS A SOURCE of satisfaction and pleasure to greet so many of you here this morning at our Semi-annual Conference. It has fallen to my lot since our last conference to visit a number of the stakes of Zion, to be present at the dedication of a number of meeting houses in the various wards, and to dedicate four chapels and recreation halls in the missions of the Church. I have also had the pleasure of being present at a meeting on the Hill Cumorah, which was held in commemoration of the one-hundredth anniversary of the delivery to Joseph Smith of the golden plates from which the Book of Mormon was translated by the inspiration of the living God, and also, to attend a meeting in the Sacred Grove at Palmyra, where God, our Father, and Jesus Christ, appeared to the boy, Joseph Smith—the most remarkable and wonderful vision that we have any record of in the holy scriptures.

PROGRESS OF THE CHURCH

I rejoice in the growth of the Church and in the general prosperity of the people. There have been quite a number of changes in the various stakes and wards since our last conference.

Stake Presidents Appointed: East Jordan Stake, Heber J. Burgon; West Jordan Stake, Joseph M. Holt; Los Angeles Stake, Leo J. Muir; San Francisco Stake, W. Aird MacDonald; Hollywood Stake, George W. McCune. The former President of the Los Angeles Stake, George W. McCune, is now the President of the new Hollywood Stake.

*Address delivered at the opening session of the Ninety-eighth Semi-annual Conference, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, October 7th, 1927.

Brother Martin Christophersen was released as the President of the Norwegian Mission, and since his return home has passed to the great beyond. Brother Lorenzo W. Anderson was appointed to succeed Brother Christophersen.

New Wards Organized: Osgood Ward, Idaho Falls Stake; Soldier Summit Ward, Kolob Stake; Wiltshire Ward, Hollywood Stake; Winslow Ward, Snowflake Stake; Riverton Ward, West Jordan Stake, divided into Riverton First and Riverton Second Wards; Berkeley Ward, San Francisco Stake; Diamond Ward, San Francisco Stake; Elmhurst Ward, San Francisco Stake; Martinez Ward, San Francisco Stake; Mission Ward, San Francisco Stake; Oakland Ward, San Francisco Stake; San Francisco Ward, San Francisco Stake; Richmond Ward, San Francisco Stake; Sunset Ward, San Francisco Stake; Daly City Ward, San Francisco Stake.

New Stakes Organized: Los Angeles Stake was divided into the Los Angeles and Hollywood Stakes; Jordan Stake was divided into East Jordan and West Jordan Stakes; San Francisco Stake.

Bishops Who Have Died: Sylvester C. Williams of Glenwood Ward, Alberta Stake; Thomas J. McCann of Turner Ward, Bannock Stake.

Present Number of Stakes: 99—an increase of three in six months. We now have 930 wards—an increase of 15 in the past six months. We have 75 independent branches—an increase of four in the past six months, making a total of wards and branches from Canada to Mexico of 1,005. We have 27 missions covering all parts of the world.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ON LAW ENFORCEMENT

I have decided this morning to make rather brief remarks personally, and to read from the revelations of God to the Latter-day Saints, but before doing so I want to call attention to a very remarkable statement made by the Attorney General of the United States. This statement was made at Bedford Springs, Pennsylvania, June 22nd, 1927:

When intelligent, educated men hold up to ridicule the rules of conduct which society has made, intimate, and, by innuendo and suggestion, advise that such rules ought to be violated; ridicule and revile as undesirable members of a community, men sworn to defend and enforce its rules; devote their intelligence, wit and resources to making crime and criminals interesting and attractive, why is it not expected that the thoughtless, the unfortunate, the ignorant, the vicious, will try to get rid of the oppressors of the criminal in any way, by any means, any violence, that will be most effective?

Because someone pays for the doing of it, and because the great body of law-abiding citizens is complaisant and says nothing to show its disapproval, flippant, jeering writers, publishers, soap-box orators, cabaret performers, sow the wind; and society reaps it in whirlwinds which blast and destroy.

The Attorney General, without mentioning Prohibition, asserted that in buying any commodity, traffic in which is forbidden by law, the purchaser is directly sanctioning and rewarding a violation of the law in exactly the same manner as does the receiver of stolen goods, by making the transaction profitable.

"It will not do," he asserted, "to say in the same breath: I believe in and demand enforcement of the laws of the country, and I will pay well any man who will violate these laws."

I regret that his speech was not published in full in the dispatches, because it is the speech of a statesman, the speech of a man who loves his country and is desirous of maintaining and upholding the laws of that country.

FROM THE DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS ON LAW OBSERVANCE

In the very first revelation in the Doctrine and Covenants we find the following:

Search these commandments, for they are true and faithful, and the prophecies and promises which are in them shall all be fulfilled.

What I the Lord have spoken, I have spoken, and I excuse not myself; and though the heavens and the earth pass away, my word shall not pass away, but shall all be fulfilled, whether by mine own voice or by the voice of my servants, it is the same.

We read in one of the revelations:

I, the Lord, am bound when ye do what I say; but when ye do not what I say, ye have no promise.

I wish that I had the ability to impress upon the Latter-day Saints the necessity of searching the commandments of God, the revelations from the Lord, the Creator of heaven and earth, as contained in the Doctrine and Covenants. If we as a people would live up to those wonderful revelations that have come to us, we would be a bright and shining light to all the wide world.

Let no man break the laws of the land, for he that keepeth the laws of God hath no need to break the laws of the land.

Wherefore, be subject to the powers that be, until he reigns whose right it is to reign, and subdues all enemies under his feet.

. . . .

According to the laws and constitution of the people, which I have suffered to be established, and should be maintained for the rights and protection of all flesh, according to just and holy principles;

That every man may act in doctrine and principle pertaining to futurity, according to the moral agency which I have given unto him, that every man may be accountable for his own sins in the day of judgment.

. . . .

And for this purpose have I established the Constitution of this land, by the hands of wise men whom I raised up unto this very purpose, and redeemed the land by the shedding of blood.

All Latter-day Saints should believe absolutely that the Con-

stitution of our country was inspired of God, and that He used wise men, noble men, as instruments in His hands for establishing that Constitution, and when any law is enacted and becomes a constitutional law, no man who spends his money to help men break that law can truthfully say that he is a loyal citizen.

And now, verily I say unto you concerning the laws of the land, it is my will that my people should observe to do all things whatsoever I command them.

And that law of the land which is constitutional, supporting that principle of freedom in maintaining rights and privileges, belongs to all mankind, and is justifiable before me.

Therefore, I, the Lord, justify you, and your brethren of my church, in befriending that law which is the constitutional law of the land;

And as pertaining to law of man, whatsoever is more or less than this cometh of evil.

I, the Lord God, make you free, therefore ye are free indeed; and the law also maketh you free.

Nevertheless, when the wicked rule the people mourn.

Wherefore, honest men and wise men should be sought for diligently, and good men and wise men ye should observe to uphold; otherwise whatsoever is less than these cometh of evil.

And I give unto you a commandment, that ye shall forsake all evil and cleave unto all good, that ye shall live by every word which proceedeth forth out of the mouth of God.

. . . .

For behold, it is not meet that I should command in all things; for he that is compelled in all things, the same is a slothful and not a wise servant; wherefore he receiveth no reward.

Verily I say, men should be anxiously engaged in a good cause, and do many things of their own free will, and bring to pass much righteousness;

For the power is in them, wherein they are agents unto themselves. And inasmuch as men do good they shall in nowise lose their reward.

But he that doeth not anything until he is commanded, and receiveth a commandment with doubtful heart, and keepeth it with slothfulness, the same is damned.

Who am I that made man, saith the Lord, that will hold him guiltless that obeys not my commandments?

Who am I, saith the Lord, that have promised and have not fulfilled?

I command and men obey not; I revoke and they receive not the blessing.

Then they say in their hearts: This is not the work of the Lord, for his promises are not fulfilled. But wo unto such, for their reward lurketh beneath, and not from above.

Another statement in this book is that—

There is a law, irrevocably decreed in heaven before the foundations of this world, upon which all blessings are predicated—

And when we obtain any blessing from God, it is by obedience to that law upon which it is predicated.

THE WORD OF WISDOM

A Word of Wisdom, for the benefit of the council of high priests, assembled in Kirtland, and the church, and also the saints in Zion—

To be sent greeting; not by commandment or constraint, but by revelation and the word of wisdom, showing forth the order and will of God in the temporal salvation of all saints in the last days—

Given for a principle with promise, adapted to the capacity of the weak and the weakest of all saints, who are or can be called saints.

And every Latter-day Saint knows that tea, that coffee, that tobacco, that liquor, are the things that this Word of Wisdom says it is not pleasing unto God that we should partake of. There are many Saints who say: Oh that is not by way of commandment—but it is "the order and will of God." And what does the Lord promise to you and to me and to every Latter-day Saint who observes this Word of Wisdom?

And all saints who remember to keep and do these sayings, walking in obedience to the commandments, shall receive health in their navel and marrow to their bones;

And shall find wisdom and great treasures of knowledge, even hidden treasures;

And shall run and not be weary, and shall walk and not faint.

And I, the Lord, give unto them a promise, that the destroying angel shall pass by them, as the children of Israel, and not slay them.

May God help you and me and every Latter-day Saint to observe the Word of Wisdom, that we may have health and hidden treasures of knowledge, and that God will allow us to live here upon the earth until we have filled out the measure of our creation; and may God help you and me to uphold the laws of our land in every way within our power, is my prayer, and I ask it in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

THE DIVINITY OF JESUS OF NAZARETH*

The Resurrected Christ on the Western Continent

From Lehi, who led the migrating colony from Jerusalem in the year 600 B.C., down to Nephi, the grandson of Helaman, who lived on the Western Continent at the time of Christ's birth in the East, the long line of Nephite prophets testified of the Man, Jesus, who was to come upon the earth, minister among men, and suffer death as a sacrificial atonement for the sins of mankind. Unto some of these righteous men the details of Christ's birth, ministry and death were shown in vision, and they spoke of the

*This article is for use in the course of study of the Relief Societies on the second meeting night in November.

great events then future with a certainty and assurance that could not have been exceeded if the events had already taken place. Read in this connection the graphic account of the separate visions of Lehi and his son, Nephi. See 1 Nephi, chapters 10 and 11.

Throughout the centuries of contention and bloodshed between the Nephites and the Lamanites, with occasional periods of respite, the Lord's prophets ceased not to tell of the assured coming of the Messiah, the birth of Jesus Christ; and with greater confidence than appears in the writings of any of the Old Testament prophets, as we have their record, holy men among the Nephites specified the year in which Jesus would be born.

Signs and wonders were specified by which the people in the West should know of the Lord's birth, among which signs we find mention of a new star appearing, and of the passing of two days with no darkness between. Signs of the Lord's crucifixion and death were given ahead, and amongst these were the passing of two nights with no intervening light, great disturbances in the air, the waters and the solid earth, whereby great destruction would be brought upon the people.

All these predicted signs and wonders came to pass in every particular, according to the words of the prophets. Following soon after the resurrection of Jesus Christ, when many were resurrected in the East, many of the dead came forth from their graves in the West, and appeared in bodily presence amongst those who had survived the destruction incident to the crucifixion. See Matthew 27: 52, 53; and Book of Mormon, Helaman 14: 25, and 3 Nephi 23: 7-13.

Then, approximately six weeks following the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, when a great multitude of people were gathered about the Temple in the land Bountiful, they heard a voice from heaven saying: "Behold my Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased, in whom I have glorified my name—hear ye him."—3 Nephi 11: 7.

The people gazed upward and beheld a Man, clothed in white, who descended and stood upon the earth and said unto them: "Behold, I am Jesus Christ, whom the prophets testified shall come into the world. And behold, I am the light and the life of the world; and I have drunk out of that bitter cup which the Father hath given me, and have glorified the Father in taking upon me the sins of the world, in the which I have suffered the will of the Father in all things from the beginning." See 3 Nephi 11: 10, 11. The people then remembered the words of their prophets to the effect "that Christ should show himself unto them after his ascension into heaven."

Christ showed to the people the wounds in His hands, feet and side; and, recognizing in Him the resurrected Messiah, they worshiped Him. Prominent among His ministrations to the

Nephites, Christ called Nephi, the grandson of Helaman, and eleven others; and unto these Twelve He gave authority to baptize and officiate in other ordinances in His name. He reproved the people for having allowed contentions to arise amongst them on matters of doctrine and practice, and prescribed the proper form to be used in baptism and in the Sacrament, all of which ordinances were to be administered in His name. Unto these Twelve the Lord gave authority to confer the Holy Ghost by the laying on of hands upon all repentant and baptized believers. Then He ascended while the multitudes were overshadowed by a cloud, but the Twelve Disciples "saw and did bear record that he ascended again into heaven." On the day following these wonderful events Christ visited His Nephite flock again, and remained with them through three days, expounding to them the significance of ancient prophecies, explaining to them the conditions of salvation and exaltation in the kingdom of God, and preaching unto them day after day.

On the occasion of His first visit He had given to them the substance of what is recorded in the Bible as the Sermon on the Mount, including all the important precepts of that wonderful address, yet with certain differences, all of which served to make His meaning plainer and clearer.

The people were much concerned over some of the Lord's statements concerning the Law of Moses. This law had been in force when Lehi and his colony left Jerusalem, and Book of Mormon passages are clear in stating that the righteous part of the people had observed all the essentials of the Law of Moses throughout their history on the Western Continent. With plainness not to be misunderstood Christ said unto them: "Behold, I say unto you that the law is fulfilled that was given unto Moses. Behold, I am he that gave the law, and I am he who covenanted with my people Israel; therefore, the law in me is fulfilled, for I have come to fulfil the law; therefore it hath an end."—3 Nephi 15: 4, 5.

Note specifically the Lord's words that it was He who gave the law, and that it was He who covenanted with His people Israel; and that the law was fulfilled in Him. Now, throughout Exodus and the succeeding books of the Pentateuch, it is repeatedly stated that the Lord spake unto Moses, and through him gave the law to Israel. In our standard Bibles, wherever the word Lord appears in small capitals, it is the equivalent of the Hebrew original meaning Jehovah. It was then Jehovah who gave the law unto Moses and through him to Israel; and, in what we have seen, the resurrected Christ declared unto the Nephites that it was He who gave the law, and who made covenant with Israel. The conclusion is plain, that the Man known as Jesus of Nazareth, or more specifically as Jesus Christ, was the exalted Being, Jehovah, the God of Israel.

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THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1927

EDITORIAL

MAY JUDGMENT BE AVERTED?

THE DIVINE DECREE against the wickedness of mankind has gone forth, and who shall escape? Judgment has been pronounced against men and nations who refuse to heed the warning call to repentance. Angels bearing the golden vials, filled with the wrath of God, are abroad in the earth, for these days are the days of wickedness and vengeance, which the prophets have foretold. The word of God cannot return unto Him void, but must and shall accomplish His holy purpose.

Vital questions touching every soul are these: Has the day of possible escape already passed? Is there no way of averting the impending plagues and destruction?

One of the attributes of God is His unchangeableness, for with Him there "is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

For I am the Lord, I change not.—Mal. 3: 6.

God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?—Num. 23: 19.

His paths are straight, and his course is one eternal round.—Book of Mormon, Alma 37: 12.

And in accordance with His immutability of purpose, His unchangeable justice, His ever-present mercy, God both decrees and revokes; and every pronouncement, whether of proffered salvation or threatened condemnation, is conditioned upon the state of righteousness or transgression.

He decreed the destruction of Nineveh, whose abominations were not longer to be tolerated. A prophet was sent, who cried aloud through the streets of the great and wicked city: "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown." The people heard and were awakened to a realization of their guilt. From the king on his throne to the beggar in the streets, all turned from their evil ways. They fasted and prayed, and withal, reformed. Jonah, having delivered his message, posted himself in a position from which he expected to witness the destruction of the city. But no catastrophe befell. He was angry, for seemingly his word had failed. Then the Lord reasoned with him, not without rebuke, and showed that the city, once condemned, was spared because of

the repentance and reformation of her people. Such is the Lord's unchangeableness; for He is a God of justice who hears the prayers of the sinner and requites repentance with mercy.

Amidst the awe-inspiring glories of Sinai, Jehovah decreed that the sins of the fathers should be visited upon the children. Heredity demonstrates to this day the actuality of the condition specified. But Israel ignorantly misinterpreted and wilfully misapplied that word of the Lord. They gave to it a meaning wholly foreign to the divine intent, and assumed to find therein excuse, if not justification, for their sins. Indeed, they hailed it as a very comfortable doctrine; for in their evil eyes it appeared to explain away their own defects as inherited weaknesses, for which they were not answerable and from which they could not escape. They crystalized it into a proverb thus: "The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge." But they were sternly rebuked:

As I live, saith the Lord God, ye shall not have occasion any more to use this proverb in Israel. Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die. . . . The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son.—Eze. 18: 3, 4, 20.

Did the Lord thus change His purpose and nullify the avowal in the Decalogue? Verily, No! Far above the natural operation of heredity, which at most is tendency, not compulsion, stands eternal and unchanging justice, which assures to every soul his desert.

Wherefore I, the Lord, command and revoke, as it seemeth me good.—Doctrine and Covenants 56: 4.

I command and men obey not; I revoke and they receive not the blessing. Then they say in their hearts: This is not the work of the Lord, for his promises are not fulfilled. But wo unto such, for their reward lurketh beneath, and not from above.—Ibid 58: 32, 33.

Yes, there is a way by which the judgments of these days may be averted; and that way is the way of the Lord, whereby men through faith, repentance and baptism may receive the Holy Ghost, who shall lead them in righteousness. God will not destroy an upright soul, nor a righteous nation. As in the meridian dispensation, so now and for the last time, the divine command is promulgated:

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.—Mark 1: 15.

But behold, if the inhabitants of the earth shall repent of their wickedness and abominations they shall not be destroyed, saith the Lord of Hosts.—Book of Mormon, 2 Nephi 28: 17.

J. E. T.

THE NINETY-EIGHTH SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OBEDIENCE, to the commandments of God and the laws of the land, was the key-note of the Ninety-eighth Semi-annual Conference, sounded by President Heber J. Grant at the opening session on October 7th in the great Tabernacle at Salt Lake City, Utah, U. S. A. The conference comprised six general sessions, covering a period of three days, and scores of other meetings of workers in the various organizations of the Church.

The Tabernacle, which accommodates approximately ten thousand, was filled when the President of the Church called the meeting to order promptly at ten o'clock on the Friday morning of commencement. The attendance increased at each succeeding session, and Sunday, morning and afternoon, overflow meetings were held in the Assembly Hall. Throughout the convention, hundreds listened from the grounds, where amplifiers clearly reproduced the proceedings, which were also broadcast over the radio, and by which means countless thousands more received the messages delivered at the gatherings.

Twenty-five of the General Authorities of the Church were in attendance, Elder James E. Talmage, who is presiding over the European Missions, being the sole absentee. Besides these, many mission presidents and stake presidents were heard; and General Charles P. Summerall, Chief of Staff of the United States Army and successor to General Pershing, also addressed one of the gatherings. President Grant's address appears in full, in the forepart of this issue of the *Star*; the messages of the other General Authorities follow in brief summary:

To uphold the laws of God and the laws of the land is the sacred obligation of every member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The early settlers of America were God-fearing men, and in their hands was placed the founding of a government which was designed to benefit all mankind and make everyone equal before the law. Violation of law by the common citizen is a serious offense, but it becomes doubly so when it is done by one who has been entrusted with law enforcement. The salvation of the Nation rests with the citizens, and not with the officials. Seek good men to wield the power of government.—PRESIDENT ANTHONY W. IVINS.

The rapid growth enjoyed by the Church has given rise to a greater demand for building funds; the Tabernacle was not built alone by preaching and prayers, but also by hard work and material resources. In the first nine months of 1927 the Trustee-in-Trust of the Church had appropriated $750,000 for chapels alone, exclusive of funds given to the missions for this purpose, as compared with $168,000 for the entire year of 1917. According to prophecy and experience, those who give of their means to further the work of the Lord will be blessed in great measure;

and to those who observe the law of tithing the windows of heaven will be opened to pour out blessings.—PRESIDENT CHARLES W. NIBLEY.

FROM THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES

The Priesthood is the foundation of the church edifice, of which Jesus Christ is the chief Cornerstone. The Council of the Twelve and the First Council of the Seventies were not intended to preside over a particular branch of the Church, but to travel and organize and ordain workers. Unity and harmony exist among all the members of the First Presidency and the Councils of the Priesthood. It is the work of the Lord in which we are engaged, and He is guiding the affairs of this Church.—PRESIDENT RUDGER CLAWSON.

I know that my Redeemer lives, that God did reveal Himself to Joseph Smith, and that this Church is being guided by direct revelation from God to-day. There must needs be opposition in all things, else righteousness could not be brought to pass. If there were no opposition the Church of Christ would never have made the remarkable progress it has, and proven the foundation so strong.—REED SMOOT.

The duty of delivering the truths of the Gospel to mankind rests with the Latter-day Saints, and the enthusiasm with which they discharge this sacred obligation is a source of wonderment to the world. This vitality is attributable to the fact that the lowliest among us may enjoy the same spirit and blessings as do the leaders of the organization, and that each member stands on his own testimony, which is given, not of man, but of God.—GEORGE ALBERT SMITH.

Salvation is the great objective of this earthly existence. So many different conceptions exist, regarding the road to salvation, because the word of the Lord given through the mouths of His prophets by the influence of the Holy Ghost has been interpreted by many without the gift of that Spirit. Joseph Smith was a prophet chosen of God to restore the plan of salvation; Brigham Young, his successor, was inspired of the Lord to carry on the work, as have been all the succeeding Presidents of the Church, down to the present.—GEORGE F. RICHARDS.

The Church was not established, nor are missionaries sent out into the field, to quibble about questions of theology. With the salvation of mankind in the balance, arguments concerning non-essentials are worthless; the great need at all times is to cry repentance, and warn the people of the judgments to come if they reject the Gospel, which is the power of God unto salvation. There is only one Gospel, but many gospel dispensations, of which this is the greatest and last.—ORSON F. WHITNEY.

The great mission of the Latter-day Saints is to proclaim the restoration of the Gospel to all the world, for which purpose two

thousand missionaries are maintained in the field. The next great duty is to make the living of religion effective in the lives of men and to elevate the social and moral standard. To do this parents must set examples of sincerity and uprightness before their children. No Latter-day Saint can be true to his country, Church or God who will violate laws relating to the moral welfare and spiritual advancement of man.—DAVID O. MCKAY.

Hearken unto the commandments of God, for these are verily the last days and perilous times. Great are the punishments predicted by prophets of old upon the heads of the wicked and unrepentant of this day. The Latter-day Saints should not feel that they are free from the evils of the world, and that these predictions do not apply to them. All mankind will be judged according to the deeds performed in the flesh, and because of our greater light, if we are found in transgression, greater will be our condemnation.—JOSEPH FIELDING SMITH.

Observe the Word of Wisdom; it is one of the world's greatest documents. The spirit is housed here on earth in a tabernacle made in the image of God, which we cannot pollute with poisonous, disintegrating substances without offering affront to Him who gave it. It is impossible to think of a good man who does not have respect for, and hold sacred, his body. Impress upon the hearts of boys and girls, by precept and example, the lofty conception that the human body is a tabernacle for the Spirit of God.—STEPHEN L. RICHARDS.

The Book of Mormon illustrates the cycles through which human society passes. Poverty, adversity and hardship turn the thoughts of men toward religion; religion brings industry, frugality and faith; these bring success and prosperity, with which come pride, sin and iniquity, which are the breeders of poverty. Men are seeking happiness through iniquity—a hopeless search, as all history teaches that they are seeking happiness on the road back to poverty and misery. Let not the workers of the Church harbour any vanity that will forestall them from acknowledging the hand of God in all things.—RICHARD R. LYMAN.

The solution of the problem of lawlessness and destruction now facing the world lies in the simple principles of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. No situation has arisen in the history of the Church for which the Lord has not provided; nor will such arise. These are the last days; Satan is making a last stupendous effort to win the kingdoms of this world, but God has promised that His work shall not fail, although every man's faith will be assailed by the arch-tempter. Obedience to gospel law is the way of escape.—MELVIN J. BALLARD.

Upon the Latter-day Saints rests the responsibility of teaching truth and righteousness to all the world, and there are countless souls yet to be reached with the gospel message. There is little

of importance that happens by chance—God rules the destiny of the world, shaping developments to aid the work of this last dispensation of the Gospel. The present is a time of abundant blessings with contemporaneous temptations, and it is the duty of members of the Church to abide by gospel teachings and be a light unto all nations.—JOHN A. WIDTSOE.

FROM THE PRESIDING PATRIARCH

God blesses the honest in heart among His children wherever they may be—at home as well as abroad in the mission fields. In the Book of Mormon account of Christ's visit to the American Continent among the Nephites it tells of Him blessing the children, healing the sick and ministering unto the people with loving tenderness. The Lord still loves His children and is anxious to bless them, providing they will turn to righteousness and allow Him to shower down His goodness upon them. The Saints should show appreciation for blessings received by serving the Lord with greater diligence.—HYRUM G. SMITH.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

THE LONDON CONFERENCE

THE SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the London District was held on Sunday, October 23rd, at the Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New Road, London, to which place many inquirers and a goodly number of members from all parts of the extensive London area foregathered. Those in attendance included Elder Seth W. Pixton, Sister May Booth Talmage and Elder Ralph V. Chisholm from headquarters in Liverpool, and President Harold A. Candland and the eleven Traveling Elders of the District.

A theme of ever-increasing interest "The Book of Mormon" was effectively treated in the morning meeting by members of the various branch Sunday Schools. Particular consideration was given to the prophetic words of Psalms 85:11—"Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven." To make the program truly representative of Sunday School work, those who took part were given topics to develop and treat in their own way. The participants were: James P. Hill, Arthur Willmott, Elsie Osborne, Florence Burgess, Andre K. Anastasiou, Frederick Beckingham, and Traveling Elder Roscoe E. Evans. Following the rendition of "An Angel from on High" by the South London Branch Harmony Club, Elder Pixton carried further the theme, declaring that inspired writers, whose words are recorded in the Book of Mormon, had prophesied that the sacred volume would come forth in a time when men would say that miracles are done away and when the power of God should be denied. He closed by bearing strong testimony to the divine authenticity of the record.

A report given by President Harold A. Candland in the afternoon showed that the London District includes twelve counties, wholly or in part, where reside 681 members of the Church, of whom 108 hold some office in the Priesthood. The organized branches are as follows: North London, South London, Holloway, Watford, St. Albans, Portsmouth, Gravesend and Sittingbourne. Cottage meetings are being held at Orpington. During the past six months the Traveling Elders have spent 3,142 hours tracting, 1,398 hours visiting investigators; they have engaged in 3,010 gospel conversations, and have distributed 57 copies of the Book of Mormon, 1,521 pamphlets and 80,188 tracts. They have held 262 meetings, of which 83 have been open-air. Local brethren holding the Priesthood have aided greatly with the work in the branches, and have engaged in active missionary labour. Following this summary, President Candland declared that compliance with the laws of the Gospel is necessary for the obtaining of salvation and a fulness of joy. Blessings come surely to those who obey the Word of Wisdom and comply with the law of tithing, he averred.

Elder Hyrum J. Ward presented the names of the General Authorities of the Church, and Mission officers, for the sustaining vote of the members, and assured those present that the men whom they had sustained were in truth Christ's representatives on earth, holding the Priesthood, which is delegated authority from God. Where there is no vision the people perish; revelation is guiding Christ's Church to-day as in times of old—these were the truths stated and illustrated by Elder Wallace D. Yardley. Elder Chisholm reviewed the history of the three witnesses to the Book of Mormon, showing that although they became estranged from the Prophet Joseph Smith and the Church, two being excommunicated, they repeatedly reaffirmed the testimony recorded in the forepart of the Book of Mormon, in public and in private. Two of the three were later received back into the Church, and died faithful and humble members.

Elder John H. Parker, the first speaker in the evening meeting, proclaimed the first principles of the Gospel, declaring that faith, repentance, baptism and the reception of the Holy Ghost are essential to-day, as they were in New Testament times. That the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was established, and is directed, of God, and has a vital message for all seekers after life eternal, was the substance of Elder N. Homer Hansen's remarks.

A knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the coming forth of the Book of Mormon, and of external evidence concerning its authenticity, is important, but the real value of this volume of scripture is contained within its own covers, declared Sister Talmage; its doctrine and precepts are inspiring, uplifting and faith-promoting. Elder Pixton averred that the truths of the Gospel are the same to-day as always; and it therefore

follows that he who believes and is baptized will be saved and he who believes not will be damned. Cleanliness and purity are essential for entrance into the presence of God, for no unclean thing can dwell there; and he who attains to a kingdom of glory must abide by the laws of that kingdom, he stated, and with power testified that we are engaged in the work of the Lord, and that the testimonies borne during the day were not a mere play of words, but carried the stamp of truth.

Musical numbers added much to the spirit and success of the conference, and included vocal solos by Sister Bessie Shindler and Andrew Butchart, and vocal selections by a quintette composed of William J. Jolliffe, Sen., William J. Jolliffe, Jr., Grace A. Jolliffe, Annie I. Jolliffe and Ada Chipping. Another quintette composed of Sister Grace Tout Pugh, Elder Ralph J. Pugh, President Harold A. Candland and Traveling Elders Myron H. Brenchley and Hyrum J. Ward also gave a number. Edwin Pugh, accompanied by Betty Pugh, played a cello solo. A meeting of M. I. A. workers was held on Saturday evening. Priesthood and Relief Society meetings convened between general sessions. A missionary meeting was held on Monday, October 24th.

HYRUM J. WARD, District Clerk

THE DIVINITY OF JESUS OF NAZARETH

(*Concluded from page 695*)

Among the Nephites Jesus Christ established His Church, in all essentials as to ordinances and administrations similar to the Church He had established in Palestine, after which pattern the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has been reestablished upon the earth in the current dispensation. He admonished the Nephites to follow the instructions of the Twelve Disciples, whom He magnified before them; and when the Nephite Twelve inquired of Him as to the name to be given the Church, He told them plainly that as it was His Church it should be called after His name. See 3 Nephi 27: 4-12.

Three of the Nephite Twelve had in their hearts the same desire that John the beloved Apostle had manifested, and that was to live in the flesh, labouring to bring souls to a knowledge of the Christ, until the Lord should come again. This wish was granted, as was John's. See 3 Nephi 28: 1-12.

Thus did Jesus Christ, a resurrected Being, minister among the Nephites, on what we now call American soil.

SUMMARY

1. Lehi, a righteous prophet of Jerusalem, led a colony of Jews to the Western Continent. Give particulars as to time, incidents of the journey, etc. Distinguish between Nephites and Lamanites.

2. Nephite prophets testified in detail of the Messiah. Give instances from earlier to later prophets.

3. The Nephites knew of the birth and ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ before, during and after His life in mortality. Prove this.

4. The resurrected Lord personally visited the Nephites. What solemn and authoritative proclamation attended His appearing? How did the people know that the Visitant was the Christ?

5. Christ established His Church among the Nephites. Give the important particulars.

6. Jesus of Nazareth was identical with Jehovah, the Lord. Prove this from scripture.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Arrivals and Assignments: The following missionaries arrived in Liverpool on October 29th, aboard the *Montcalm*; they have been thus assigned:

For the British Mission—Charles Earl Alsop, Sandy, Utah, to the Norwich District; June E. Bartlett, Price, Utah, to the London District; Willis E. Bean, Price, Utah, to the Scottish District; Louis Wayne Sanders, Murray, Utah, to the Birmingham District; Seth T. Shaw, Malta, Idaho, to the Newcastle District.

For the French Mission—George Earl Brunt, Idaho Falls, Idaho; Reed Howard Jensen, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

For the German-Austrian Mission—Asahel S. Fairchild, Oakley, Idaho; Arthur Karl Koelliker, Los Angeles, California.

For the Swiss-German Mission—Archie Theron Smith, Salt Lake City, Utah; Philip Otto Smith, Tucson, Arizona.

Branch Conference: Of the Hucknall Branch, Nottingham District, on October 16th. The morning service was featured by remarks, given by Sunday School members, expressive of appreciation for that organization. District President Waldo L. Osmond, Branch President Samuel Pears and Elders David W. Sutton and Rulon W. Stevenson addressed the assemblies. A favourable report of the conference was printed in the *Hucknall Dispatch.*

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LIVERPOOL

FOR SALE IN ALL THE DISTRICTS OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN GREAT BRITAIN